

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:  
partitioning an image into at least two or more sub-blocks, each of the at least two or more sub-blocks containing a predetermined number of pixels wherein at least one boundary between the at least two or more sub-blocks is defined, each of the pixels having a pixel video value, respectively  
determining whether a predetermined condition is satisfied; and  
upon satisfaction of the predetermined condition, at least for a first pixel disposed proximal to the boundary, recalculating the pixel video value for the first pixel, said recalculating step being based at least upon the pixel video value of a second pixel being disposed proximal to the first pixel.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of calculating an average mean of the pixel video values for the respective pixels of each of the at least two or more sub-blocks, said determining step being based upon at least a result of said average mean calculating step.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of calculating an average variance of the pixel video values for the respective pixels of each of the at least two or more sub-blocks, said determining step being based upon at least a result of said average variance calculating step.
4. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of calculating an average variance and an average mean of the pixel video values for the respective pixels of each of the at least two or more sub-blocks, said determining step being based upon at least a result of said average variance and average mean calculating step.
5. A method as claimed in claim 1, the second pixel being disposed in a different sub-block from the first pixel.

12

8. A program of instructions capable of being stored on a computer readable medium for causing a computer to implement steps for filtering a video, the steps comprising:

partitioning an image into at least two or more sub-blocks, each of the at least two or more sub-blocks containing a predetermined number of pixels wherein at least one boundary between the at least two or more sub-blocks is defined, each of the pixels having a pixel video value, respectively

determining whether a predetermined condition is satisfied; and

upon satisfaction of the predetermined condition, at least for a first pixel disposed proximal to the boundary, recalculating the pixel video value for the first pixel, said recalculating step being based at least upon the pixel video value of a second pixel being disposed proximal to the first pixel.

9. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of calculating an average mean of the pixel video values for the respective pixels of each of the at least two or more sub-blocks, said determining step being based upon at least a result of said average mean calculating step.

10. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of calculating an average variance of the pixel video values for the respective pixels of each of the at least two or more sub-blocks, said determining step being based upon at least a result of said average variance calculating step.

11. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of calculating an average variance and an average mean of the pixel video values for the respective pixels of each of the at least two or more sub-blocks, said determining step being based upon at least a result of said average variance and average mean calculating step.

12. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, the second pixel being disposed in a different sub-block from the first pixel.

13. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, said recalculating step being based upon a first algorithm in the event the boundary has a first slope and being based upon a second algorithm in the event the boundary has a second slope.

14. A program of instructions as claimed in claim 8, said recalculating step being implemented upon each of the predetermined number of pixels adjacent to the boundary in each of the at least two or more sub-blocks.

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15. An apparatus, comprising:

means for partitioning an image into at least two or more sub-blocks, each of the at least two or more sub-blocks containing a predetermined number of pixels wherein at least one boundary between the at least two or more sub-blocks is defined,  
5 each of the pixels having a pixel video value, respectively;

means for determining whether a predetermined condition is satisfied; and

means for recalculating the pixel video value at least for a first pixel disposed proximal to the boundary, said recalculating means being capable of utilizing at least the pixel video value of a second pixel being disposed proximal to the first pixel,  
10 said recalculating means being capable of recalculating in response to the predetermined condition being satisfied.

16. An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, said means for determining whether a predetermined condition is satisfied including means for calculating an average variance and an average mean of the pixel video values for the respective pixels of each  
15 of the at least two or more sub-blocks, said determining means being capable of basing a determination upon at least a result of an average variance and average means calculation.

17. An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, said partitioning means, said determining means, and said recalculating means each comprising a circuit structure capable of implementing a respective function of said partitioning means, said  
20 determining means, and said recalculating means, respectively.

18. A video system, comprising:  
means for reading a video;  
means for filtering the video so that blocking in the video is reduced; and  
means for displaying the video filtered by said filtering means on a display.

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19. A video system as claimed in claim 18, said filtering means comprising:  
means for partitioning an image into at least two or more sub-blocks, each of the  
at least two or more sub-blocks containing a predetermined number of pixels wherein at  
least one boundary between the at least two or more sub-blocks is defined, each of the  
pixels having a pixel video value, respectively;

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means for determining whether a predetermined condition is satisfied; and

means for recalculating the pixel video value at least for a first pixel disposed  
proximal to the boundary, said recalculating means being capable of utilizing at least the  
pixel video value of a second pixel being disposed proximal to the first pixel, said  
recalculating means being capable of recalculating in response to the predetermined  
condition being satisfied.

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20. A video system as claimed in claim 18, each of said reading means, said  
filtering means, and said displaying means comprising a circuit capable of carrying out a  
corresponding function of said reading means, said filtering means, and said displaying  
means, respectively.

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